

Application No.: 10/574,824

Docket No.: 06005/41114

REMARKS

Each of claims 1-7 and 9-21, including independent claims 1, 11, 18, and 20, remains pending and at issue in this application. With this response, applicants amend each of the independent claims to clarify the scope of the invention. Each of the amendments finds support in the application as originally filed and, as such, the amendments add no new matter. In view of the amendments above and the remarks below, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

Claim Objections

Claim 20 stands objected to because of informalities. With this response, applicants amend claim 20 to correct the informality. Accordingly, applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

Each of claims 1-7 and 9-21 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,445,963 to Blevins et al. (hereinafter "Blevins '963") in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0077711 of Nixon et al. (hereinafter "Nixon") and U.S. Patent No. 5,594,858 to Blevins (hereinafter "Blevins '858"), and further in view of one or more of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0186927 of Eryurek et al. (hereinafter "Eryurek"); U.S. Patent No. 6,826,521 to Hess et al. (hereinafter "Hess"); and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0153804 of Blevins et al. (hereinafter "Blevins '804"). (For convenience applicants hereinafter refer collectively to these documents as "the cited documents.") In particular, each of independent claims 1, 11, 18, and 20 stands rejected as allegedly unpatentable over Blevins '963 in view of Nixon and Blevins '858. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments above render these rejections moot. Accordingly, applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections.

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Moreover, applicants submit that independent claim 1 is patentable over any of the cited documents, individually or in any combination, at least because all of the cited documents, individually or in any combination, fail to disclose or suggest all of the elements of the claim. Independent claim 1 is directed to a method of providing a user interface for a process plant and recites, in part, generating information for a plurality of content layers of a process graphic display of the process plant, wherein the information for the plurality of content layers of the process graphic display includes a set of graphic display elements common to each of the content layers, the set of graphic display elements illustrating a set of interconnected plant equipment to be illustrated in each of the plurality of content layers, and content layer unique display information to be displayed in conjunction with the common set of graphic display elements for each of the different ones of the content layers, wherein each of the different ones of the content layers is customized for a different type of user. Applicants submit that none of the cited documents, separately or combined with one or more of the others, discloses or suggests (1) a set of graphic display elements **common to each of a plurality of content layers**, the set of graphic display elements illustrating a set of interconnected plant equipment to be illustrated in each of the plurality of content layers; and (2) **wherein each of the different ones of the content layers is customized for a different type of user**. For at least these reasons, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of this claim.

Applicants also respectfully submit that each of independent claims 11, 18, and 20 is patentable over any of the cited documents, individually or in combination, at least for reasons similar to those described above with respect to claim 1. Like claim 1, each of claims 11, 18, and 20 recites a set of graphic display elements common to each of a plurality of content layers (claims 11, 20) or common to each of a plurality of customized depictions of a process plant (claim 18). Additionally, like claim 1, each of claims 11 and 20 recites that each of the different ones of the content layers (claim 11) or the content layer unique display information for each of the plurality of content layers (claim 20) is customized for a different type of user.

**Reply Under 37 CFR 1.116
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Accordingly, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of these claims.

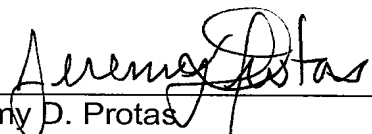
Each of claims 2-7, 9, 10, 12-17, 19, and 21 depends, directly or indirectly, from one of independent claims 1, 11, 18, and 20. Accordingly, applicants submit that each of claims 2-7, 9, 10, 12-17, 19, and 21 is patentable over the cited documents, individually or in any combination, for at least the same reasons as described above with respect to the claim from which it depends. Therefore, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of these claims.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, all remaining claims are in condition for allowance for the reasons provided above. Although applicants believe that no fees or petitions are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 13-2855 of Marshall, Gerstein & Borun, LLP under Order No. 06005/41114. Should the examiner wish to discuss any of the foregoing comments or any claim amendments deemed needed to result in allowance, applicants kindly request the examiner to contact the undersigned by telephone at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 24, 2010

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